

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended): A waterproofing material in sheet form comprising a core layer (10), which incorporates swellable bentonite clay, sandwiched between respective carrier layers (12, 14), ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the carrier layers (12, 14) are connected to each other by ultrasonic welding (18; 26, 28) at intervals or along one or more lines.

2. (original): A material according to claim 1 wherein at least one of the carrier layers (12, 14) comprises a non-woven textile fabric.

3. (currently amended): A material according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~ wherein the carrier layers (12, 14) comprise polypropylene, polyethylene or polyvinylchloride.

4. (currently amended): A material according to ~~any of claims 1, 2 or 3~~ claim 1 including a further layer which is an impermeable film or membrane.

5. (currently amended): A material according to ~~any of claims 1, 2 or 3~~ claim 1 wherein an impermeable film or membrane is provided at the locations of ultrasonic welding.

6. (currently amended): A material according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1 wherein the core layer (10) is formed by extrusion or rolling from a deformable plastics mass wherein the bentonite is semi-hydrated.

7. (currently amended): A material according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein a flexible perforate reinforcement (16) is included in the core layer.

8. (currently amended): A material according to claim 7 ~~or 8~~ wherein the reinforcement is a mesh (16) of plastics material.

9. (currently amended): A material according to claim 7 ~~or 8~~ wherein one of the carrier layers (12) is connected to the reinforcement (16) by a first series of ultrasonic welds (26) and the other of the carrier layers (14) is connected to the reinforcement (16) by a second series of ultrasonic welds (28), which are offset in position relative to the first series.

10. (original): A method of producing a waterproofing material in sheet form comprising sandwiching a core layer (10) incorporating swellable bentonite clay between respective carrier layers (12, 14) and connecting the carrier layers by ultrasonically welding (18; 26, 28) at intervals or along one or more lines.

11. (original): A method of producing a waterproofing material in sheet form comprising sandwiching a core layer (10) incorporating swellable bentonite clay between respective carrier layers (12, 14) and including a mesh reinforcement (16) within the core layer, connecting one of the carrier layers (12) to the reinforcement by ultrasonically welding at a first series of locations (26) and connecting the other of the carrier layers (14) to the reinforcement by ultrasonic welding at a second series of locations (28) which are offset relative to the first series.